IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE MARYLAND

MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT

BOARD OF NURSING

LICENSE NO .:

LP54846

MSLP

DEFAULT FINAL DECISION AND ORDER AFFIRMING SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE AND MULTISTATE LICENSURE PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

- And -

DEFAULT FINAL DECISION AND ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE/REVOCATION OF MULTISTATE LICENSURE PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

On May 5, 2022, the Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") issued an "Order for Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing Pursuant to Section 10-226(c)(2) of the Administrative Procedure Act" ("Order for Summary Suspension") to MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT (the "Respondent"), a licensed practical nurse ("LPN"), license number LP54846. The Order for Summary Suspension ordered that the Respondent's LPN license be summarily suspended based on the Board's determination that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively required emergency action under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.), and notified the Respondent that a Show Cause hearing was scheduled for May 25, 2022, before the Board to give the Respondent an opportunity to show cause as to why her license should not be suspended.

¹ The Order for Summary Suspension consisted of eight pages and was accompanied by a two-page cover letter. These documents are appended to this Order as Exhibit A and are incorporated by reference.

Default Final Decision and Order Affirming the Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing and Default Final Decision and Order of Permanent Revocation of Licensed Practical Nurse License/Revocation of Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

Also on May 5, 2022, the Board issued a Notice of Agency Action - Charges Under the Maryland Nurse Practice Act (the "Charges")2 to the Respondent, which notified her that the Board was charging her with violations of the Maryland Nurse Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 8-101 et seq. (2021 Repl. Vol.), specifically § 8-316(a)(1), (20), (25) [predicated on Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR") 10.27.19.02B(1)], and (30) [predicated on COMAR 10.27.01.05B(1)(b)]. The Charges also notified the Respondent that she had thirty (30) days from the date of the Charges to request an evidentiary hearing regarding the Charges. The Charges notified the Respondent that, if she failed to submit a written request for a hearing regarding the Charges to the Board within thirty (30) days, then the Respondent would waive the opportunity for an evidentiary hearing on the Charges and the Board, pursuant to the authority of § 8-316(a) and (b) of the Health Occupations Article, §§ 10-210(4) and 10-221 of the State Government Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, and COMAR 10.27.02.09, would issue a public final decision and order by default, in which: (1) the allegations of fact in the Charges become findings of fact; (2) the disciplinary grounds that the Charges alleged to have been violated would become conclusions of law; and (3) a disciplinary sanction and/or monetary penalty would be imposed.

On June 22, 2022, the Board held a show cause hearing, and a quorum of the Board was present. The Respondent failed to appear at the Show Cause hearing before the Board. On June 22, 2022, the Board issued an "Order Continuing Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical

² The Charges consisted of a three-page letter and a seven-page document entitled, "Charges Under the Maryland Nurse Practice Act." The Charges are appended to this Order as Exhibit B and the document is incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Default Final Decision and Order Affirming the Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing and Default Final Decision and Order of Permanent Revocation of Licensed Practical Nurse License/Revocation of Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

Nurse License and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing" ("Order Continuing Summary Suspension"), which notified the Respondent that she had thirty (30) days from the date of the Order Continuing Summary Suspension to request a hearing on the merits of the summary suspension. The Order Continuing Summary Suspension also notified the Respondent that, if she failed to submit a written request for a hearing on the merits of the summary suspension to the Board within thirty (30) days, then the Respondent would waive the opportunity for an evidentiary hearing regarding the merits of the summary suspension and the Board, pursuant to the authority of §§ 10-210(4) and 10-221 of the State Government Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, would issue a public final decision and order by default, in which: (1) investigative findings and reasons in support of the summary suspension in the Order for Summary Suspension would become findings of fact; and (2) the summary suspension of the Respondent's LPN license and multistate licensure privilege would be affirmed and continued until further Order of the Board.

The Board sent the Charges, the Order for Summary Suspension, and the Order Continuing Summary Suspension by regular and certified mail to the Respondent's last known addresses. The Board finds that the Charges, the Order for Summary Suspension, and the Order Continuing Summary Suspension were properly issued and that due and proper notice was given to the Respondent in accordance with § 8-317(c) of the Health Occupations Article and §§ 10-207 and 10-209(a) and (c) of the State Government Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

³ The Order Continuing Summary Suspension consisted of two pages and was accompanied by a two-page cover letter. These documents are appended to this Order as Exhibit C and are incorporated by reference.

Default Final Decision and Order Affirming the Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing and Default Final Decision and Order of Permanent Revocation of Licensed Practical Nurse License/Revocation of Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

The Respondent failed to submit a request for an evidentiary hearing regarding the merits of the Order for Summary Suspension within thirty (30) days from the date of the Order Continuing Summary Suspension. The Respondent also failed to submit a request for an evidentiary hearing regarding the Charges within thirty (30) days of the date of the Charges. Thus, the Board finds that the Respondent has waived the right to an evidentiary hearing on both the merits of the Order for Summary Suspension and the Charges and that the Board is authorized to issue this final decision and order by default pursuant to the authority of § 8-317(e) and § 8-6A-10.1(e) of the Health Occupations Article and § 10-210(4) of the State Government Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board adopts the investigative findings and reasons in support of summary suspension set forth in the attached Order for Summary Suspension as Findings of Fact.

The Board also adopts allegations of fact set forth in the attached Charges as Findings of Fact.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Accordingly, the Board concludes that the public health, safety, and welfare imperatively required the emergency action of summarily suspending the Respondent's license to practice licensed practical nursing and her multistate licensure privilege to practice licensed practical nursing on May 5, 2022 under § 10-226(c)(2) of the State Government Article.

The Board further concludes that the Respondent has violated Health Occ. § 8-316(a):

 Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or for another;

Default Final Decision and Order Affirming the Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing and Default Final Decision and Order of Permanent Revocation of Licensed Practical Nurse License/Revocation of Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

- (20) Fails to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board;
- (25) Engages in conduct that violates the professional code of ethics; to wit,

COMAR 10.27.19.02

- (B) A nurse may not, when acting in the capacity or identity of a licensed nurse:
 - Knowingly participate in or condone dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation;
- (30) Violates regulations adopted by the Board or an order from the Board; to wit,

COMAR 10.27.01.05

- (B) An applicant for the licensed practical nurse licensure examination shall:
 - Meet all requirements for a high school diploma or its equivalent and complete satisfactorily and meet all requirements for a diploma from:
 - (b) A licensed practical nursing education program in any other state, territory, or country determined by the Board to be substantially equivalent⁴ to the licensed practical

⁴ COMAR 10.27.01.01 C. provides: "Substantially equivalent" means a registered nursing or licensed practical nursing education program that:

Contains theoretical learning experiences and related clinical learning experiences that include direct patient care within various settings consistent with program objectives, outcomes, or competencies conducted either concurrently with or after the theoretical learning experience; and Meets the curriculum requirement for Maryland schools of nursing at the time of the applicant's graduation, including, but not limited to:

 ⁽a) The appropriate level of the graduate's intended scope of practice;

 ⁽b) Didactic and clinical learning experiences that are diverse and consistent with program objectives, outcomes, or competencies;

Default Final Decision and Order Affirming the Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing and Default Final Decision and Order of Permanent Revocation of Licensed Practical Nurse License/Revocation of Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

nursing education programs approved in this State at the time of the applicant's graduation[.];

The Board concludes that these violations of the Act fall within category L(2) of the Board's sanctioning guidelines. See COMAR 10.27.26.07L(2). The range of potential sanctions under category L(2) includes reprimand to revocation, and/or monetary penalty of \$1,000 to \$5,000. Id.

III. ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the summary suspension of the Respondent's license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland, as ordered by the Board's May 5, 2022 Order for Summary Suspension, is AFFIRMED; and it is further

ORDERED that the summary suspension of the Respondent's multistate licensure privilege to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland, as ordered by the Board's May 5, 2022 Order for Summary Suspension, is AFFIRMED; and it is further

⁽c) Didactic and clinical instruction in nursing care of families and clients throughout the life span in a variety of care settings requiring nursing measures appropriate for:

⁽i) The maintenance or restoration of mental and physical health;

⁽ii) Preventive, rehabilitative, and curative aspects of health care;

⁽iii) Biophysical, psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual components of health and illness; and

⁽iv) Professional issues content; and

⁽d) Didactic and clinical instructional content that includes, but is not limited to, the areas of:

⁽i) Medical and surgical nursing;

⁽ii) Maternal and child health;

⁽iii) Psychiatric nursing; and

⁽iv) Geriatric nursing;

Default Final Decision and Order Affirming the Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing and Default Final Decision and Order of Permanent Revocation of Licensed Practical Nurse License/Revocation of Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

ORDERED that the summary suspension of the Respondent's license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland, as ordered by the Board's May 5, 2022 Order for Summary Suspension, is hereby LIFTED AND TERMINATED, and it is further

ORDERED that the summary suspension of the Respondent's multistate licensure privilege to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland, as ordered by the Board's May 5, 2022 Order for Summary Suspension, is hereby LIFTED AND TERMINATED, and it is further

ORDERED that the license of the Respondent to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland, License Number LP54846, is hereby PERMANENTLY REVOKED beginning on the effective date of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the multistate licensure privilege of the Respondent to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland is hereby REVOKED beginning on the effective date of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent may apply for initial licensure as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland or for reinstatement of her multistate licensure privilege to practice licensed practical nursing after a minimum of one (1) year from the effective date of this Order has passed, provided that the Respondent produces evidence of completion of a licensed practical nursing education program that is either approved by the Board or that the Board finds to be substantially equivalent pursuant to section 8-302(c)(2)(ii) of the Health Occupations Article, Maryland Annotated Code, as well as meeting all other minimum qualifications to be issued an

Default Final Decision and Order Affirming the Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing and Default Final Decision and Order of Permanent Revocation of Licensed Practical Nurse License/Revocation of Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

initial license to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland or to have her multistate licensure privilege to practice licensed practical nursing reinstated; and it is further

ORDERED that this Default Final Decision and Order is a PUBLIC RECORD under Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 et seq. (2019 Repl. Vol.).

3/3/2023 Date

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC The Executive Director's Signature Appears on the Original Document

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Any person aggrieved by a final decision of the Board under § 8-316(a) of the Health Occupations Article may take a direct judicial appeal within thirty (30) days of the date this Order is mailed, as provided by § 8-318(b) of the Health Occupations Article, § 10-222 of the State Government Article, and Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules, including Md. Rule 7-203 ("Time for Filing Action").

DATE MAILED:



Board of Nursing

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

May 9, 2022

VIA REGULAR AND CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
Signature Redacted

RE: CORRECTED NOTICE OF SHOW CAUSE HEARING - May 25, 2022 at 11:00am

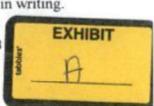
ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE (License Number LP54846) AND MULTISTSTAE LICENSURE PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND PURSUANT TO SECTION 10-226(c)(2) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

Dear Ms. Fombat:

The letter previously mailed to you, dated May 5, 2022, contained a typographical error concerning the date and time of the Show Cause Hearing. The correct date and time is Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 11:00a.m.

To that end, enclosed is a duplicate copy of the executed "Order for Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Registered Nursing in the State of Maryland Pursuant to Section 10-226(c)(2) of the Administrative Procedure Act" issued by the Maryland Board of Nursing ("the Board"), pursuant to the authority of the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Government ("State Gov't.") § 10-226(c) (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2021 Supp.). The enclosed Order suspends, effective immediately, your license to practice as a licensed practical nurse and your multistate licensure privilege to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland.

As stated in the Order, the Board has scheduled a Show Cause Hearing in person before the Board on WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022 AT 11:00 AM at 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215 on the summary suspension of your license and multistate licensure privilege. The Show Cause Hearing is an opportunity to present oral argument as to why the Board should not continue the summary suspension of your license and multistate licensure privilege. This opportunity to address the Board at the Show Cause Hearing is not an evidentiary hearing, therefore, the Board will not accept any documentary evidence nor will witnesses be allowed to testify. You will present argument to the Board first. After your presentation, the State will be provided the opportunity to respond. Both you and the State will be given 10 minutes each for oral argument. After the Show Cause Hearing, the Board will make a decision as to whether to continue the suspension of your license and multistate licensure privilege and you will be notified of the Board's decision in writing.



ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LPN LICENSE AND MSLP Maria Fombat, LP54846 & MSLP

If you would like to request a postponement of the Show Cause hearing, please submit a written request for a postponement no later than <u>Friday</u>, <u>May 20, 2022</u> by email or fax to:

Attn: Amber Havens Bernal
Enforcement Division - Discipline Program
Maryland Board of Nursing
4140 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215
Fax: (410) 358-1499
mbon.nursingdiscipline@maryland.gov

Please be advised that if your request for a postponement is granted, license and multistate licensure privilege will remain suspended until you have the opportunity to be heard at a Show Cause hearing and the Board issues its written decision following the Show Cause Hearing. You are not required to appear at the Show Cause Hearing however, if you or your attorney do not attend the Show Cause Hearing, the Board will proceed in your absence, make a decision regarding whether to continue the summary suspension of your license and multistate licensure privilege, and will notify you in writing of its decision. The Board's written notification of its decision will also include instructions regarding your right to request a full evidentiary hearing before the Board on the merits of the summary suspension of your license and multistate licensure privilege.

Because your license to practice as a licensed practical nurse and multistate licensure privilege to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland is at issue and could be affected, you are strongly urged to retain and be represented by an attorney at all stages of this proceeding. If you choose to retain counsel, please be advised that, in order to appear on your behalf, your attorney must be admitted to the Bar in Maryland or specifically admitted pursuant to Maryland Rule 19-214 which governs special admission of out-of-state attorneys pro hac vice.

If you or your attorney have any questions about this letter or the enclosed Order, please contact the Administrative Prosecutor assigned to your case, Kelly Cooper, AAG, at kelly.cooper@maryland.gov or (410) 767-5828, or Amber Havens Bernal, Enforcement Division, at mbon.nursingdiscipline@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC
The Executive Director's Signature
Appears on the Original Document

Maryland Board of Nursing

Enclosure: Order for Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate
Licensure Privilege Pursuant to Section 10-226(c)(2) of the Administrative Procedure Act

Kelly Cooper, Assistant Attorney General, Administrative Prosecutor

cc:

IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE MARYLAND

MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT

BOARD OF NURSING

License No.: LP54846

OAG Case No.: 22-BP-15

Multi-State Licensing Privilege to

Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

.

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE

AND

MULTI-STATE LICENSING PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

PURSUANT TO SECTION 10-226(C)(2) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") hereby orders the SUMMARY SUSPENSION of the license of MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT, (the "Respondent"), License Number LP54846 to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing (Oklahoma-License No. 200259). The Board takes this action pursuant to the authority of Maryland Code Ann., State Government Article ("SG") § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.), which provides:

- (2) A unit may order summarily the suspension of a license if the unit:
 - finds that the public, health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action; and
 - (ii) promptly gives the licensee:
 - Written notice of the suspension, the finding and the reasons that support the finding; and
 - An opportunity to be heard.

The Board has reason, as set forth below, to find that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action ("SG") § 10-226(c) (2).

Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259)

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS AND REASONS IN SUPPORT OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Based on investigatory information obtained by, received by and made known to and available to the Board, the Board has reason to believe that the following facts are true:

- On October 10, 2019, the Respondent was issued a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse ("LPN") in the State of Maryland, license number LP54846. The Respondent's license is currently "invalid per compact" and is scheduled to expire on February 28, 2021. The Compact² status of the Respondent's Maryland LPN license is "None."
- 2. On November 6, 2020, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing ("Oklahoma Board") issued the Respondent a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Oklahoma, license number 200259. The Respondent's Oklahoma LPN license is active and scheduled to expire February 28, 2023. The Compact³ status of the Respondent's Oklahoma LPN is "Multistate."

INITIAL APPLICATION FOR LPN BY EXAM

- On or about July 8, 2016, the Respondent submitted an online Maryland Application for Exam of LPN License ("LPN Application").
- On the LPN Application, the Respondent indicated that she graduated from an LPN program located in Woodbridge, Virginia (the "LPN School") on June 28, 2013.

^{&#}x27;The allegations set forth in this document are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the Board's action. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent in connection with this action.

² The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) is an agreement between Boards of Nursing of party states that allows nurses to have one Multistate nursing license with the ability to practice nursing in both their home state and other party states. In accordance with the Nurse Licensure Compact, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-7A-01.3(h) and § 8-7A-01.3(m) respectively, "Home state" means the party state that is the nurse's primary state of residence and, "Party state" means any state that has adopted this Compact

³ Under the Multi-state Licensure Compact ("Compact"), Maryland Nurse Practice Act § 8-7A-01, Oklahoma is a compact state and the Respondent is allowed to practice under the multi-state licensing privilege in any State that is a party to the Compact. The State of Maryland is a party to the Compact.

Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259)

5. On the LPN Application, the Respondent affirmed and agreed to the following statement: "I affirm that the contents of this document are accurate to the best of my knowledge." The Respondent was advised that "providing false or misleading information may result in disciplinary action by the Board, and may result in denial of licensure."

LPN SCHOOL

- 6. On July 21, 2010, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a <u>Consent Order</u>, ordering that the LPN School be placed on Conditional Provisional Approval for not less than one (1) year, subject to terms and conditions. The <u>Consent Order</u> was signed by LPN School's Program Director ("Director").
- On May 15, 2012, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a <u>Consent Order</u>, signed by the Director. The May 15, 2012 - <u>Consent Order</u> orders that:
 - a. [LPN School's] approval to operate a practical nursing education program in Virginia is WITHDRAWN. [LPN School] shall cease operations no later than June 30, 2013, when all students shall either have graduated or transferred to an approved program.
 - [LPN School] shall not admit any new or transfer students.

LPN SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

8. On or about August 25, 2021, the Board issued a Subpoena Duces Tecum ("Subpoena") to the Respondent commanding her to produce and provide to the Board copies of transcripts from all schools attended for any LPN program, transcripts from all schools attended for any RN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any LPN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any RN program, and proof of school attendance.

Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259)

9. The only transcript provided by the Respondent was received on or about July 1, 2016, and was an <u>Official Transcript</u> which listed the school as the LPN School. It is signed by the Program Director ("Director")⁴ and dated June 28, 2013, and provides the following information:

FIRST QUARTER		THIRD QUARTER		
From: 04/16/2012 To: 06/15/2012		From: 10/15/2012 To 02/08/2013		
Course Description	Contact Hours	Course Description	Contact Hours	
Basic Computer	30	Med/Surg I	120	
Medical Terminology	60	Med/Surg II	120	
Anatomy and Physiology	180	Med/Surg Clinical	200	
Total Contact Hours Required	270	Med/Surg Lab	40	
•		Geriatrics Theory	30	
		Geriatrics Clinical	40	
		Total Contact Hours Required	550	
Course Description	Contact	Course Description	Contac	
	Hours		Hours	
Diet and Nutrition	60	Pediatric Nursing	90	
Pharmacology	120	Pediatric Nursing Clinical	40	
Nursing Fundamentals	210	Maternity Nursing	90	
Nursing Fundamentals Lab	60	Maternity Clinical	40	
Nursing Fundamentals Clinical	40	Mental Health Nursing	30	
Total Contact Hours	490	Mental Health Clinical	40	
		Professional Development & NCLEX Review	60	
		Total Contact Hours Required	390	

Summary of Clinical Agencies/Facilities and dates for each experience

Clinical Courses	Clinical Agency	Clinical Start Date	Clinical End Date	Total Hours
Nursing Fundamentals	Facility 1	10/08/12	10/12/12	40

On or about July 8, 2021, in the U.S. District Court of Maryland, Director was indicted on charges of Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud; Conspiracy to Commit False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters and False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters. According to the Criminal Complaint, Director conspired with two other individuals and submitted false statements relating to health care matters by working together to sell fraudulent transcripts and diplomas that indicate that various individuals completed necessary courses and clinical hours to obtain nursing degrees and coached these unqualified individuals to pass the nursing board exam.

Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259)

Medical-Surgical Nursing	Facility 1 Facility 2	11/12/12	12/14/12	200
Geriatric Nursing	Facility 3	12/17/12	12/21/12	40
Maternity Nursing	Facility 4	04/08/13	04/12/13	40
Pediatric Nursing	Facility 4	05/06/13	05/10/13	40
Mental Health Nursing	Facility 5	05/27/13	05/30/13	40

THE BOARD'S INVESTIGATION

- 10. In a letter dated September 8, 2021, the Board's staff was notified by Facility 1, "we regret to inform you that after searching our records, we were unable to locate any school agreement for clinical rotations with [LPN School]."
- 11. On August 5, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted the General Counsel for Facility 2 and Facility 3, requesting information on any agreements with LPN School. On August 5, 2021, the General Counsel responded by email, stating "I searched our contracts database and do not find any contracts with [LPN School]. Additionally, as a skilled nursing facility, I do not believe we would have hosted clinicals for surgical nursing."
- 12. On August 6, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted Facility 4's Executive Director by phone. Executive Director stated that Facility 4 does not offer OB/GYN or pediatric care and that the program offers services to troubled teens, there are no nurses on staff, and the program does not offer any medical services.
- 13. On August 25, 2021, the Board's staff was notified by email that Facility 5 "does not have any affiliation or contracts with any nursing institute for any clinical hours."

Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259)

FAILURE TO COOPERATE WITH THE BOARD'S INVESTIGATION

14. By letter dated August 25, 2021, the Board notified the Respondent that the clinical sites listed on the Respondent's official transcript from the LPN School "had no affiliation with the nursing program." The Board included a Subpoena Duces Tecum ("Subpoena") to the Respondent commanding her to appear at the Board on September 10, 2021 for an interview. The Respondent was also commanded to produce and provide to the Board copies of transcripts from all schools attended for any LPN program, transcripts from all schools attended for any RN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any LPN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any RN program, and proof of school attendance. The Respondent was informed that "[f]ailure to cooperate with a lawful investigation by the Board is itself a violation of the Nurse Practice Act (NPA) and could result in additional disciplinary action." The Board did not receive a response.

DISCUSSION

15. The Respondent submitted a Maryland LPN application with fraudulent information about her LPN School, including fraudulent dates of attendance, and submitted a fraudulent transcript, resulting in the Board issuing an LPN license to the Respondent in October 2019. The Respondent did not meet the Board's statutory and regulatory requirements, didactic and clinical training, for LPN licensure by exam and practiced on the fraudulent LPN license. The Respondent's continued practice poses a serious risk and danger to the public health, safety, and welfare.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing investigative findings and reasons, the Board finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action in this case pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.).

Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259)

ORDER

It is hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board of Nursing by Maryland Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.) the license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland (LP54846) and the Multi-State Licensing Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259) of Maria Fombat are hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED; and be it further

ORDERED that there will be a Show Cause Hearing on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. before the Board at the Maryland Board of Nursing offices, 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215: and be it further

ORDERED that if, the suspension of the Respondent's license and multi-state licensing privilege is continued following a Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent has the right to a full evidentiary hearing before the Board and a hearing will be scheduled before the Board if the Respondent submits a written request for an evidentiary hearing to the Board no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the Board's written decision issued after the Show Cause Hearing; and be it further

ORDERED that if the Respondent does not submit a timely written request to the Board for an evidentiary hearing within 30 days from the date of the Board's written decision issued after the Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent shall have waived all rights now and in the future to any hearing on the merits of the summary suspension and the factual allegations contained in this Order for Summary Suspension; and it is further

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION PURSUANT TO § 10-226(c)(2) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259)

ORDERED that this Order for Summary Suspension shall remain in effect and the summary suspension of the Respondent's license and multi-state licensing privilege to practice shall continue until further Order of the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that this, "Order for Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing" is a PUBLIC RECORD pursuant to Md. Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-101 et seq. & § 4-333 (2019).

May 5, 2022

Date

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC

The Executive Director's Signature

Appears on the Original Document Executive Director

Maryland Board of Nursing



Board of Nursing

Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Dennis R. Schroder, Secretary

May 5, 2022

1	VIA REGULAR AND CERTIFIED MAIL
1	RETURN RECEIPT REOUESTED
	Address Redacted
į	

RE: NOTICE OF AGENCY ACTION-Charges under the Maryland Nurse Practice Act Maria Dasdores Fombat, LP54846 and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing in the State of Maryland (Oklahoma License No.: 200259)

Dear Ms. Fombat:

The Maryland State Board of Nursing (the "Board") is the state agency responsible for the regulation of the practice of nursing in the State of Maryland pursuant to the authority of the Maryland Nurse Practice Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations ("Health Occ.") § 8-101 et seq. (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2021 Supp.). Pursuant to § 8-316(a) and (b) of the Health Occupations Article, the Board may reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, suspend or revoke the license of a licensee, and/or impose a monetary penalty if the Board finds that the licensee has violated any of the disciplinary grounds set out at § 8-316(a)(1)-(36). Pursuant to § 8-7A-01 and § 8-316(a) and (b) of the Health Occupations Article, the Board, as a party state to the Nurse Licensure Compact, may discipline the multistate licensure privilege ("privilege") of a nurse, which may include reprimand, probation, suspension or revocation of the privilege, and/or a monetary penalty if the Board finds that the nurse has violated any of the disciplinary grounds set forth under Health Occ. § 8-316(a)(1)-(36).

Based on the allegations of fact and violation(s) of the disciplinary ground(s) cited in the enclosed document entitled, "Charges Under the Maryland Nurse Practice Act" (hereinafter "Charges"), the Board is notifying you of its intent to take disciplinary action against your license, which may include reprimand, probation, suspension, revocation, and/or monetary penalty. This letter and the enclosed Charges constitute the notice of agency action that is required by the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Government ("State Gov't.") § 10-207.

Under § 8-317 of the Health Occupations Article, the Board is required to give you an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing before it may take any disciplinary action against your license and your multistate licensure privilege.



NOTICE OF AGENCY ACTION: Charges Under the Nurse Practice Act Maria Dasdores Fombat, LP45846 & MSLP

TO REQUEST A HEARING:

If you wish to schedule a hearing, please submit a written request for hearing to the Board within 30 days of the date of this letter, by mail, fax or email, to:

Attn: Amber Havens Bernal
Enforcement Division – Discipline Dept.
Maryland Board of Nursing
4140 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215
Fax: (410) 358-1499

Email: mbon.nursingdiscipline@maryland.gov

A Request for Hearing form has been enclosed for your convenience.

If you submit a written request for an evidentiary hearing, the Board will schedule a case resolution conference to provide an opportunity for a resolution of this case without proceeding to a formal evidentiary hearing. Your attendance at the case resolution conference is voluntary, and your decision not to attend the case resolution conference will not have any influence on subsequent proceedings in this case. If you choose not to attend the case resolution conference, the Board will schedule an evidentiary hearing on the merits of the Charges.

The Board will notify you in writing, at your last known address on record with the Board, of the date, time and location of the case resolution conference and evidentiary hearing. A copy of the Board's hearing procedures will be made available to you upon request. The hearing before the Board will be conducted in accordance with the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, State Gov't § 10-201 et. seq., § 8-317 of the Health Occupations Article, and regulations promulgated by the Board at Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR") Title 10, Subtitle 27, Chapter 02.

Pursuant to § 8-317 of the Health Occupations Article, and §§ 10-206.1 and 10-208 of the State Government Article, you have the right to be represented by an attorney, to subpoena evidence and witnesses, to present evidence, to cross-examine witnesses called against you, and to present summation and argument. Pursuant to §§ 8-316(a) and 8-317 of the Health Occupations Article, § 10-221 of the State Government Article, and COMAR 10.27.02.09, if, after a hearing, the Board finds that you violated any of the disciplinary ground(s) cited in the Charges, the Board may take disciplinary action against your license and privilege by issuing a public Final Decision and Order, which will include findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a disciplinary sanction against your license and privilege, which may include reprimand, probation, suspension, revocation and/or a monetary penalty.

Also, pursuant to § 10-208(b)(7) of the State Government Article, you may agree to the evidence and waive your right to appear at the hearing before the Board. However, if you waive your right to appear at the hearing or fail to appear at the hearing for any other reason, please be advised that pursuant to § 8-317(e) of the Health Occupations Article, § 10-210(4) of the State Government Article, the Board may hear and consider the State's evidence, decide the disposition of your case despite your absence, and issue a <u>public</u> Final Decision and Order, which will include findings of fact, conclusions of law, and, if necessary, a disciplinary sanction against your license and your multistate licensure privilege, which may include reprimand, probation, suspension, revocation and/or

NOTICE OF AGENCY ACTION: Charges Under the Nurse Practice Act Maria Dasdores Fombat, LP45846 & MSLP

a monetary penalty.

IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING:

If you do not request a hearing in writing within 30 days of the date of this letter, you will have waived your opportunity for a hearing. Pursuant to the authority of § 8-316(a) and (b) of the Health Occupations Article, §§10-210(4) and 10-221 of the State Government Article, and COMAR 10.27.02.09, the Board may, in its discretion, issue a <u>public</u> Final Decision and Order by default, in which: (1) the allegations of fact in the Charges become findings of fact; (2) the section(s) of § 8-316(a) of the Health Occupations Article that the Board has alleged you violated in the Charges become conclusions of law; and (3) a disciplinary sanction is ordered against your license, which may include reprimand, probation, suspension, revocation and/or a monetary penalty.

Any decision made by the Board regarding the Charges could affect your license to practice as a licensed practical nurse and/or your multistate licensure privilege to practice as a rlicensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland. Any Final Decision and Order issued by the Board will be a <u>public document</u> and <u>cannot be expunged</u>. Therefore, you are strongly advised to retain and be represented by an attorney in any proceeding before the Board. To appear on your behalf, your attorney must be admitted to the Bar in Maryland or specifically admitted pursuant to Maryland Rule 19-217 which governs special admission of out-of-state attorneys pro hac vice.

If you or your attorney have any questions about this letter or the enclosed Charges, or you wish to see any other material in your Board file regarding this case, please contact the Administrative Prosecutor assigned to your case, Kelly Cooper, AAG, at kelly.cooper@maryland.gov or (410) 767-5828.

Sincerely

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC The Executive Director's Signature Appears on the Original Document

Maryland Board of Nursing

Encls.: Charges under the Maryland Nurse Practice Act Request for Hearing form

cc: Kelly Cooper, Assistant Attorney General Administrative Prosecutor

IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE MARYLAND

MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT

BOARD OF NURSING

OAG Case No.: 22-BP-15

License No.: LP54846

Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

Oklahoma License No.: 200259

CHARGES UNDER THE MARYLAND NURSE PRACTICE ACT

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") hereby charges the Licensed Practical

Nurse - License Number LP54846 and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed

Practical Nursing (Oklahoma-License No. 200259) ("LPN Privilege") of MARIA DASDORES

FOMBAT (the "Respondent"), pursuant to the Maryland Nurse Practice Act (the "Act"), Md.

Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 8-101 et seq. (2021 Repl. Vol.). The pertinent provisions of the Act

are as follows:

LPN License

§ 8-316 (a) In general. - Subject to the hearing provisions of § 8-317 of this subtitle, the Board may . . . reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of a licensee if the . . . licensee:

- Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the (1) applicant or for another;
- (20)Fails to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board;
- (25) Engages in conduct that violates the professional code of ethics; to wit, Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR") 10.27.19.02
 - A nurse may not, when acting in the capacity or identity of a licensed (B) nurse:
 - Knowingly participate in or condone dishonesty, fraud, (1) deceit, or misrepresentation;

(30) Violates regulations adopted by the Board or an order from the Board; to wit.

COMAR 10.27.01.05

- B. An applicant for the licensed practical nurse licensure examination shall:
 - (1) Meet all requirements for a high school diploma or its equivalent and complete satisfactorily and meet all requirements for a diploma from:
 - (b) A licensed practical nursing education program in any other state, territory, or country determined by the Board to be substantially equivalent^[1] to the licensed practical nursing education programs approved in this State at the time of the applicant's graduation[.]

¹ COMAR 10.27.01.01(C) provides: "Substantially equivalent" means a registered nursing or licensed practical nursing education program that:

(2) Meets the curriculum requirements for Maryland schools of nursing at the time of the applicant's graduation, including, but not limited to:

(a) The appropriate level of the graduate's intended scope of practice;

 (b) Didactic and clinical learning experiences that are diverse and consistent with program objectives, outcomes, or competencies;

(e) Didactic and clinical instruction in nursing care of families and clients throughout the life span in a variety of care settings requiring nursing measures appropriate for.

> The maintenance or restoration of mental and physical health;

> (ii) Preventive, rehabilitative, and curative aspects of health care;

> (iii) Biophysical, psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual components of health and illness; and

(iv) Professional issues content; and

(d) Didactic and clinical instructional content that includes, but is not limited to, the areas of:

(i) Medical and surgical nursing;

(ii) Maternal and child health;

(iii) Psychiatric nursing; and

(iv) Geriatric nursing

⁽¹⁾ Contains theoretical learning experiences and related clinical learning experiences that include direct patient care within various settings consistent with program objectives, outcomes, or competencies conducted either concurrently with or after the theoretical learning experience; and

LPN Privilege

§ 8-316 (a) In general. – Subject to the hearing provisions of § 8-317 of this subtitle, the Board may . . . reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of a licensee if the . . . licensee:

- (10) Has violated any provision of this title; to wit,
 - Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or for another;
 - (20) Fails to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board;
 - (25) Engages in conduct that violates the professional code of ethics; to wit,

Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR") 10.27.19.02

- (B) A nurse may not, when acting in the capacity or identity of a licensed nurse:
 - Knowingly participate in or condone dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation;
- (30) Violates regulations adopted by the Board or an order from the Board; to wit,

COMAR 10.27.01.05

- B. An applicant for the licensed practical nurse licensure examination shall:
 - (1) Meet all requirements for a high school diploma or its equivalent and complete satisfactorily and meet all requirements for a diploma from:
 - (b) A licensed practical nursing education program in any other state, territory, or country determined by the Board to be substantially equivalent to the licensed practical nursing education programs approved in this State at the time of the applicant's graduation[.]

ALLEGATIONS OF FACT²

The Board bases its charges on the following facts that the Board has reason to believe are true:

- 1. On October 10, 2019, the Respondent was issued a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse ("LPN") in the State of Maryland, license number LP54846. The Respondent's license is currently "invalid per compact" and is scheduled to expire on February 28, 2021. The Compact³ status of the Respondent's Maryland LPN license is "None."
- 2. On November 6, 2020, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing ("Oklahoma Board") issued the Respondent a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Oklahoma, license number 200259. The Respondent's Oklahoma LPN license is active and scheduled to expire February 28, 2023. The Compact⁴ status of the Respondent's Oklahoma LPN is "Multistate."

INITIAL APPLICATION FOR LPN BY EXAM

- On or about July 8, 2016, the Respondent submitted an online Maryland Application for Exam of LPN License ("LPN Application").
- On the LPN Application, the Respondent indicated that she graduated from an LPN program located in Woodbridge, Virginia (the "LPN School") on June 28, 2013.
- 5. On the LPN Application, the Respondent affirmed and agreed to the following statement:
 "I affirm that the contents of this document are accurate to the best of my knowledge." The

² The allegations set forth in this document are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the asserted facts. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent, a complete description of the evidence, either testimonial or documentary, to be offered against the Respondent in connection with these charges.

³ The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) is an agreement between Boards of Nursing of party states that allows nurses to have one Multistate nursing license with the ability to practice nursing in both their home state and other party states. In accordance with the Nurse Licensure Compact, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-7A-01.3(h) and § 8-7A-01.3(m) respectively, "Home state" means the party state that is the nurse's primary state of residence and, "Party state" means any state that has adopted this Compact.

⁴ Under the Multi-state Licensure Compact ("Compact"), Maryland Nurse Practice Act § 8-7A-01, Oklahoma is a compact state and the Respondent is allowed to practice under the multi-state licensing privilege in any State that is a party to the Compact.

Respondent was advised that "providing false or misleading information may result in disciplinary action by the Board, and may result in denial of licensure."

LPN SCHOOL

- 6. On July 21, 2010, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a <u>Consent Order</u>, ordering that the LPN School be placed on Conditional Provisional Approval for not less than one (1) year, subject to terms and conditions. The <u>Consent Order</u> was signed by LPN School's Program Director ("Director").
- On May 15, 2012, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a <u>Consent Order</u>, signed by the Director. The May 15, 2012 - <u>Consent Order</u> orders that:
 - a. [LPN School's] approval to operate a practical nursing education program in Virginia is WITHDRAWN. [LPN School] shall cease operations no later than June 30, 2013, when all students shall either have graduated or transferred to an approved program.
 - [LPN School] shall not admit any new or transfer students.

LPN SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

8. On or about August 25, 2021, the Board issued a Subpoena Duces Tecum ("Subpoena") to the Respondent commanding her to produce and provide to the Board copies of transcripts from all schools attended for any LPN program, transcripts from all schools attended for any RN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any LPN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any RN program, and proof of school attendance. 9. The only transcript provided by the Respondent was received on or about July 1, 2016, and was an Official Transcript which listed the school as the LPN School. It is signed by the Program Director ("Director")⁵ and dated June 28, 2013, and provides the following information:

FIRST QUARTER		THIRD QUARTER		
From: 04/16/2012 To: 06/15	/2012	From: 10/15/2012 To 02/08	/2013	
Course Description	Contact Hours	Course Description	Contact	
Basic Computer	30	Med/Surg I	120	
Medical Terminology	60	Med/Surg II	120	
Anatomy and Physiology	180	Med/Surg Clinical	200	
Total Contact Hours Required	270	Med/Surg Lab	40	
•		Geriatrics Theory	30	
		Geriatrics Clinical	40	
		Total Contact Hours Required	550	
From: 06/18/2012 To: 10/12		From: 02/11/2013 To: 06/18		
Course Description	Contact	Course Description	Contac	
	Hours		<u>Hours</u>	
Diet and Nutrition	60	Pediatric Nursing	90	
Pharmacology	120	Pediatric Nursing Clinical	40	
Nursing Fundamentals	210	Maternity Nursing	90	
Nursing Fundamentals Lab	60	Maternity Clinical	40	
Nursing Fundamentals Clinical	40	Mental Health Nursing	30	
Total Contact Hours	490	Mental Health Clinical	40	
		Professional Development & NCLEX Review	60	
		Total Contact Hours Required	390	

Summary of Clinical Agencies/Facilities and dates for each experience

Clinical Courses	Clinical Agency	Clinical Start Date	Clinical End Date	Total Hours
Nursing Fundamentals	Facility 1	10/08/12	10/12/12	40

On or about July 8, 2021, in the U.S. District Court of Maryland, Director was indicted on charges of Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud; Conspiracy to Commit False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters and False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters. According to the Criminal Complaint, Director conspired with two other individuals and submitted false statements relating to health care matters by working together to sell fraudulent transcripts and diplomas that indicate that various individuals completed necessary courses and clinical hours to obtain nursing degrees and coached these unqualified individuals to pass the nursing board exam.

Medical-Surgical Nursing	Facility 1 Facility 2	11/12/12	12/14/12	200
Geriatric Nursing	Facility 3	12/17/12	12/21/12	40
Maternity Nursing	Facility 4	04/08/13	04/12/13	40
Pediatric Nursing	Facility 4	05/06/13	05/10/13	40
Mental Health Nursing	Facility 5	05/27/13	05/30/13	40

THE BOARD'S INVESTIGATION

- 10. In a letter dated September 8, 2021, the Board's staff was notified by Facility 1, "we regret to inform you that after searching our records, we were unable to locate any school agreement for clinical rotations with [LPN School]."
- 11. On August 5, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted the General Counsel for Facility 2 and Facility 3, requesting information on any agreements with LPN School. On August 5, 2021, the General Counsel responded by email, stating "I searched our contracts database and do not find any contracts with [LPN School]. Additionally, as a skilled nursing facility, I do not believe we would have hosted clinicals for surgical nursing."
- 12. On August 6, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted Facility 4's Executive Director by phone. Executive Director stated that Facility 4 does not offer OB/GYN or pediatric care and that the program offers services to troubled teens, there are no nurses on staff, and the program does not offer any medical services.
- 13. On August 25, 2021, the Board's staff was notified by email that Facility 5 "does not have any affiliation or contracts with any nursing institute for any clinical hours."

FAILURE TO COOPERATE WITH THE BOARD'S INVESTIGATION

14. By letter dated August 25, 2021, the Board notified the Respondent that the clinical sites listed on the Respondent's official transcript from the LPN School "had no affiliation with the nursing program." The Board included a Subpoena Duces Tecum ("Subpoena") to the Respondent commanding her to appear at the Board on September 10, 2021 for an interview. The Respondent was also commanded to produce and provide to the Board copies of transcripts from all schools attended for any LPN program, transcripts from all schools attended for any RN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any LPN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any RN program, and proof of school attendance. The Respondent was informed that "[f]ailure to cooperate with a lawful investigation by the Board is itself a violation of the Nurse Practice Act (NPA) and could result in additional disciplinary action." The Board did not receive a response.

NOTICE OF POSSIBLE SANCTIONS

If the Board finds that there are grounds for action pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-316(a)(1), (10), (20), (25), and/or (30), the Board may impose disciplinary sanctions against the Respondent's license and/or Multi-State Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing in Maryland, pursuant to COMAR 10.27.26, including reprimand, probation, suspension, revocation, and/or the imposition of a monetary penalty.

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC
The Executive Director's Signature
Appears on the Original Document

Maryland Board of Nursing



Board of Nursing

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

June 22, 2022

VIA REGUI	LAR AND CER	RTIFIED MAI	L		
RETURN R	ECEIPT REO	UESTED			
Address Re	dacted				
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RE: ORDER CONTINUING SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING LICENSE AND MULTISTATE LICENSURE PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING Maria Dasdores Fombat, LP54846

Dear Ms. Fombat:

Enclosed is an "Order Continuing Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multistate Licensure Privilege to Practice Registered Nursing" ("Order") issued by the Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") in the above-referenced case. Your license to practice as a licensed practical nurse and your multistate licensure privilege to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland remains summarily suspended at this time.

You have the opportunity to request an evidentiary hearing before the Board on the merits of the summary suspension. The evidentiary hearing before the Board will be conducted in accordance with the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article ("State Gov't") §§ 10-101 et seq. (2014 Repl. Vol.). Pursuant to State Gov't § 10-208 of the APA, you will have the right to be represented by an attorney, subpoena evidence and witnesses, call witnesses and submit documents or other evidence, cross-examine witnesses called against you, and present summation and argument.

TO REQUEST AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING:

If you wish to schedule an evidentiary hearing on the merits of the summary suspension, please submit a written request for a hearing to the Board within 30 days of the date of the enclosed Order, by mail or fax, to:

Attn: Amber Havens Bernal
Enforcement Division – Discipline Dept.
Maryland Board of Nursing
4140 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215
FAX: (410) 358-1499; EMAIL: mbon.nursingdiscipline@maryland.gov

A Request for Hearing form is enclosed for your convenience.



www.mbon.maryland.gov

Maria Fombat, LP54846 & MSLP Order Continuing Summary Suspension

If you submit a written request for an evidentiary hearing, the Board may schedule a case resolution conference to provide an opportunity to resolve this case without proceeding to a formal evidentiary hearing. Your attendance at the case resolution conference, if scheduled, is voluntary, and your decision not to attend the case resolution conference will not influence the Board in deciding what, if any, action to take in your case. If you choose not to attend the case resolution conference, the Board will schedule an evidentiary hearing on the merits of the summary suspension of your license and multistate licensure privilege.

The Board will notify you in writing, at your address last known to the Board, of the date, time, and location of the evidentiary hearing.

IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING:

If you do not request an evidentiary hearing in writing within 30 days of the date of the enclosed Order, you will have waived your opportunity for an evidentiary hearing on the merits of the summary suspension. Pursuant to its authority under the APA, State Gov't §§ 10-210(4) and 10-221, the Board may, in its discretion, issue a <u>public</u> Final Decision and Order by default, in which (1) the investigative findings and reasons in support of summary suspension in the Order for Summary Suspension become findings of fact and (2) the summary suspension of your license and multistate licensure privilege is affirmed and shall be continued until further order of the Board.

Any decision made by the Board could affect your license to practice licensed practical nurse and multistate licensure privilege to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland. Any Final Decision and Order issued by the Board will be a <u>public document</u> and <u>cannot be expunged</u>. Therefore, you are strongly advised to retain and be represented by an attorney in any proceeding before the Board. To appear on your behalf, your attorney must be admitted to the Bar in Maryland or specifically admitted pursuant to Maryland Rule 19-217 which governs special admission of out-of-state attorneys pro hac vice.

If you or your attorney have any questions about this letter or the enclosed Order, or wish to review the Board file regarding this case, please contact the Administrative Prosecutor assigned to your case, Kelly Cooper, AAG, at kelly.cooper@maryland.gov or (410) 767-5828, or Amber Havens Bernal, Enforcement Division, at mbon.nursingdiscipline@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC

Kenn E. B. Errs

Executive Director

Maryland Board of Nursing

Enclosures:

Order Continuing Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and

Multistate Licensure

Request for Hearing form

Kelly Cooper, Assistant Attorney General, Administrative Prosecutor

IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE MARYLAND

MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT

BOARD OF NURSING

License No.: LP54846

OAG Case No.: 22-BP-15

Multi-State Licensing Privilege to

Practice Licensed Practical Nursing

ORDER CONTINUING SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE AND

MULTI-STATE LICENSING PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

On May 5, 2022, the Maryland Board of Nursing ("the Board") issued an "Order for Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing Pursuant to Section 10-226(c)(2) of the Administrative Procedure Act" to MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT, (the "Respondent"), License Number LP54846 to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing (Oklahoma-License No. 200259). On June 22, 2022, the Board held a Show Cause Hearing to give the Respondent an opportunity to present argument as to why the Board should not continue the summary suspension of the Respondent's license and multi-state licensing privilege. The Respondent failed to attend the Show Cause Hearing. The Administrative Prosecutor was present at the Show Cause Hearing on behalf of the State. After considering the oral argument(s) presented at the Show Cause Hearing, the Board decided to continue the summary suspension of the Respondent's license to practice as a licensed practical nurse and multi-state licensing privilege in the State of Maryland.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires continued emergency action in this case under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) (2014). Fombat, Maria: LP54846/LPN Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259) Order Continuing Summary Suspension of LPN and MSLP

<u>ORDER</u>

Based on the foregoing, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the SUMMARY SUSPENSION of the Respondent's license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland (LP54846) and the Multi-State Licensing Privilege (Oklahoma-License No. 200259) in the State of Maryland is CONTINUED until further Order of the Board in this case; and it is further

ORDERED that an evidentiary hearing on the merits of the Order for Summary Suspension will be scheduled before the Board of Nursing if the Respondent submits a written request to the Board no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent does not submit a timely written request to the Board for an evidentiary hearing within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order, the Respondent shall have waived all rights now and in the future to an evidentiary hearing; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order Continuing Summary Suspension is a PUBLIC RECORD pursuant to Maryland Code Ann., General Provisions §§ 4-101 et leq. (2014):

June 22, 2022

Date

Gary N. Hicks, MS, RN, CEN, CNE

G The Board President's Signature

B Appears on the Original Document

Maryland Board of Nursing